

TAILOR-MADE SPRING OVERCOATS

Our New delegates to the convention, that will nominate the candidates for township officers on Friday evening next. It is hardly necessary to enlarge upon the importance of these officers. They have to do directly with our every day affairs, and are therefore of more importance to the whole people than the offices of larger name and bigger salaries. But the functions of these officers are of the greatest concern to us, because they come right home to the pocket of every taxpayer, and everybody knows it, or ought to know it. Whoever the Republicans may nominate next Friday will be elected, and therefore the selection of delegates to nominate the candidates becomes of more importance than such things usually are. The nomination is equivalent to an election, and therefore the delegates in effect choose the officers. Thus the importance of selecting representative men to form the convention becomes apparent. If the voters interest themselves in sending good men to the convention, they will be doing the best thing possible in favor of selecting good officers. People who stay away from the primaries have no right to complain if a ticket that does not suit them is put in the field. If they want to have good men to vote for, they must do their duty in the first instance—at the fountain head of political action, the place where the thing starts—by the primary meeting. It is not possible for bad and designing men to control the election unless the good citizens absent themselves from the primaries. No good citizen does his whole duty who stays away from the primary meeting and allows the other kind of citizens to control the very fountain of every political movement. Two intellects are not to be laid upon this fact, nor can it be too often brought to the attention of the citizen.

Go to the primary meetings, and see that the men who are delegated to form a ticket are such men as you would be willing to trust with any important business.

Give the President a Chance.

The President of the United States is engaged at this moment in the most strenuous work that was ever entrusted to any one man in this country. He is picking out from among the millions of American citizens the men who are best fitted and best qualified to fill the various offices that have to do with the people's affairs. The responsibility for these offices does not rest upon the great leaders of the party, the senators and representatives, the heads of houses, the captains of fleets or the captains of hundreds—but upon the President. The administration must stand or fall according to the selection of men or not men for the various offices. If he fills the thousands of places at his disposal with competent and honest men his administration will be satisfactory to the public; if he fills any considerable number with incompetent persons or bad men it will be condemned and he will find himself without that which every President wants—public confidence. Therefore the filling of the offices is to the President a matter of vastly more importance than it is to anybody else, and it is but common justice to him that he should be permitted to attend to his important duty without undue interference, and with the loyal acquiescence of the people at least that portion of them who are responsible for the fact that he is Benjamin Harrison and not Grover Cleveland who has the work to do.

The work of filling these offices is a delicate task to perform. There are scores of things to be considered aside from the main question—of the candidate's fitness. To the President there are the just claims of locality, the question of how best to recognize the claims and preferences of different elements of our heterogeneous population, the delicate task of adjusting patronage so that the executive may not unnecessarily arouse and inflame prejudices that exist, however unreasonable and unjust these prejudices may be all these are things that he must consider and decide. What the senator or representative or party leader has only the wishes of one or single individual, or locality, or state to deal with, the President has the whole multitude to consider, and it is not unreasonable that he shall require time, nor is it wonderful that there should be many disappointments.

There is one thing that a good many people forget, with reference to the matter, and it is more forcibly brought to their comprehension it would be a great step forward, and that is that no man in this country has an inalienable right to have any office that he may desire. The principle is well established that every man's desire for an office must be subordinated to a higher power than his own will. If it is an elective office that he wants, he will find that the single and only way to reach the object of his desire is to convince the sovereign people that he is the proper man. If it is an appointive office he fixes his eye upon, he must convince the appointing power that he can fill it better than anybody else. These are the only two ways in which an office can be obtained in this country, and no man has a right to rail out against the powers that be in either case, if he is brought to a halt before he reaches the goal of his ambition. The matter is all governed by well defined laws, and the disappointed aspirant only makes himself ridiculous by failing to take his defeat philosophically. And the people, too, look upon the matter in this light, at least that large portion of them who are not among the office-seeking class.

The scramble for office since the fourth of March, though not entered into by so many people as besieged Washington four years ago, is disgusting a good many people, and it is continued with almost a good many more. The most sensible thing to do is to give the President a chance. He is a just man, a patriotic man and a pure man. Let us give him a chance.

Washburn and Gardner House for sale by the Washburn & Gardner Co.

FOREIGN

Threatened with Extinction.
BALTIMORE, Md., March 17.—The village of Herford, on the Yorktown pike, thirty-one miles from Baltimore, was visited by a terrific fire at midnight last night, and for three hours was threatened with extinction. The fire broke out in D. J. York's cabinet-shop. A high wind quickly carried the flames to the village store, and the tin-shop, dwelling and stable of A. C. Carson. These buildings with their contents were burned. The fire then spread to a number of other dwellings, and the high wind carried swirling sheets of flame toward the village. The fire was not conquered until nearly four o'clock. Mr. Matthews, a school teacher, fell from a ladder and fractured his left leg near the ankle. Mr. York's loss is \$2,000; and the insurance \$1,000. Mr. Carson's loss is \$2,000; with \$3,000 insurance. The other losses are not estimated.

Australia and the United States.
SAN FRANCISCO, March 18.—United States Consul Griffin, who arrived from Sydney on the Zealandia, Saturday morning, has been the subject of a letter from the Governor of New South Wales, at which leading merchants were present, the speeches were strongly tinged with a sentiment in favor of commerce between the United States and Australia. The editorials in the local papers, the editorial articles in which show much eagerness over England's course in the Samoan matter. The Auckland Herald, especially, is very warm in its commendation of the action of the United States in this matter. The editorials in the colonies will not forget recent events, and will remember that the American colonies were of their kind and kin as the English are.

Death of Colonel McComb.
WASHINGTON, March 17.—Colonel John N. McComb, a retired officer of the engineering corps, died yesterday at his residence in this city. He was seventy-eight years old.

A Flying Trip to Brooklyn.
WASHINGTON, March 17.—Secretary Tracy went to Brooklyn, N. Y., yesterday. He is expected to return to-morrow.

Colonel Canaday Better.
WASHINGTON, March 17.—Colonel W. Canaday, sergeant-at-arms of the Senate, as reported somewhat better yesterday.

Secretary Tracy Banqueted.
BROOKLYN, March 17.—General Benjamin F. Tracy, Secretary of the Navy, was the guest of the Brooklyn Club last night. The banquet was handsomely decorated for the occasion, and in the main dining-room covers were laid for 250 guests. Justice William Barrett presided. Ex-Secretary Whitney acted as toastmaster. The evening was a brilliant one, and the evening was the highest terms his successor in office.

Secretary Tracy on his Introduction.
He was received with a salvo of applause and found reasons for the high esteem in which he was held by the people of Brooklyn. He was the first officer from the city and State of his rank. He dwelt at length on the importance and necessity of the country's maintaining a navy. He also referred to the generous treatment he had received at the hands of the press of both New York and Brooklyn.

Ex-Mayor Howe spoke in highly eulogistic terms of the newly-inaugurated Secretary of the Navy, and an official. Other speeches and toasts followed by prominent men, among them being Colonel Elliott F. Shepard, Edgar M. Cullen, Wm. T. DeWitt and others.

TROUBLE INEVITABLE.

The Bolting Indiana Coal Operators to Set Up for Themselves.

A General Strike in Ohio Likely to be Inaugurated Before Many Days.

COLUMBUS, O., March 18.—Trouble between the operators and miners seems inevitable since the failure of the joint convention to agree upon a scale of prices at the meeting in this city. It is likely to start in Ohio before the lapse of many days. At Saltillo there is already a difference as to the amount in use, and a prominent officer of the National Progressive union said that it was more than probable that a double strike would be inaugurated there to maintain the present scale of prices and to force the operators to use the regulation scales. He was asked if it would not give the Indiana operators an immense advantage over those in Ohio in supplying the great market of the Northwest, and in this connection the officer made an important statement. This matter had been considered, he said, by the miners, and in order to prevent the result, the decision had been arrived at in the event of a strike in Ohio to withhold coal from the mines of Indiana, and lessen the competitive powers of the operators by curtailing the output. The officers of the union generally anticipated trouble during the present season, but expressed a willingness to do all possible to avoid a clash between operators and miners.

Earned His Way Back to Prison.
BIRMINGHAM, Conn., March 17.—John Downes in a family quarrel Saturday night assaulted his wife and mother-in-law with a poker, severely injuring the former and inflicting injuries upon the latter which will probably prove fatal. Downes was arrested. He was brought to the police station and held for assault and battery. He was held for the same day he helped a female prisoner to escape and ran away with her.

Will Go It Alone.
BIRMINGHAM, Conn., March 18.—The Indiana coal operators who withdrew from the Columbus convention last Wednesday because the demand for a twelve per cent. reduction in the price of coal was refused, will effect a State organization at Terre Haute to-day. They say they can get coal mined at seventy cents for block and fifty-seven cents for bituminous. They anticipate no trouble with the miners.

In Aid of the Farnell Defense Fund.
NEW YORK, March 18.—Charles A. Dana presided at last night's entertainment under the auspices of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in aid of the Farnell defense fund. Letters of regret were received from S. J. Randall, Governor Hill and others. The speakers were Mr. Dana, Mayor Grant, Mayor Cleveland of Jersey City, Hon. M. F. Wilhere and Colonel John O. Belrose.

Homes for Needy Ex-Confederate Soldiers.
NEW YORK, March 18.—The Secretary of the Confederate Soldiers' Home received a letter of encouragement from Major-General A. Baird, of Washington. In his letter General Baird strongly indorses General Sherman's suggestion that the Federal soldiers' homes be also open to receive needy ex-Confederate soldiers.

Thrown from a Train by a Tramp.
CLEVELAND, O., March 18.—A special from Lima, O., says that John McCarthy, a brakeman on the Dayton & Michigan railroad, was assaulted by a tramp and thrown from a train at Anna station yesterday morning. McCarthy will die. The tramp escaped.

NEWS FROM SAMOA.

Every Thing Quiet and the German Marshal Law a Dead Letter.

The Attempt of a German Crew to Search an American Vessel Resulted in a Pinkey Resistance.

German Indifference to the Peril of an American Crew—Finally Rescued by the Nipis.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 17.—News reached here yesterday afternoon by the steamer Zealandia that during a heavy north-westerly gale on February 14 the American barkentine Constitution, Captain Peter Cowley, was driven ashore in Apia harbor, Samoa, and sank beside the lagoon reef. The United States mail-boat Nipis, which was lying in the harbor, succeeded in rescuing the crew of the barkentine and landing them in safety. The wreck was afterwards purchased at auction by H. K. Moore, of Apia. The Coast Guard cutter Albatross, under the command of Lieutenant Commander Richards, of San Francisco, and was freighted with a general cargo for Apia. The captain and crew of the wrecked vessel were brought to this city by the Zealandia.

Similar disasters are reported from other parts of the island, among them being the wreck of the schooner Matsala and Tamasea.

The Zealandia also brought the following advices from Apia: Every thing is quiet, and although the declaration of a state of war on the islands by the Germans still exists, it seems to have become a dead letter. The German, American and English consulates are guarded. Matsala is holding a strong position, and has full faith in the support of the United States. His difficulty with the Germans has not been adjusted, because he persistently declines to accept the terms proposed by the American government. Matsala's followers are joining Matsala.

The ex-German officer Brandies, who was in a considerable degree responsible for the trouble here, left Apia on the last steamer for Sydney, and it is said that he will arrive in London. Matsala's followers are joining Matsala.

The British man-of-war Calliope has relieved the British man-of-war Royal. There is much rejoicing among the English residents over this change. Captain Calliope has been very popular with the people because of his like-ness in conduct in looking after and protecting their interests. There has been much complaint on the part of the English against Captain Calliope, and he has been relieved by the Calliope.

The German officials are still accused of opposing mail matter addressed to American consulates and Englishmen. The Olga, of the German navy, met the schooner having on board the mails for Apia which the steamer Alameda had delivered, and took off the whole mail, prize and official, and ordered the schooner to return to the coast. The mail was handed over to the post-office at Apia by the Olga. It is said that in future an American warship will be sent to Apia to receive the mail, and to avoid the necessity of American mail matter passing through German hands before reaching Apia.

That tired, debilitated feeling so peculiar to Spring, indicates depraved blood. Now is the time to prove the beneficial effects of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It cleanses the system, restores physical energy, and infuses new life and vigor into every fibre of the body.

Please Notice Change of Business Location.

Mrs. R. C. Humes at her new stand, 125 East Main street, is now prepared to show a line of Millinery and Fancy Goods seldom equalled in variety and style. Please call and judge for yourselves. Remember the location—125 East Main street—Mrs. McDonald's old stand. m15-daw2w

When the Chicago base-ball team reaches home it will be accompanied by a new mascot who was engaged by A. Spaulding at Columbus, on the Island of Ceylon. The new acquisition, who has been signed for five years, is an athletic looking young 18 years old named Walter Forester. Spaulding ran across him on a steamer on the Red Sea while going to Australia. Forester was Colonel of the Ceylon Volunteers, but left home and shipped as a sailor because his mother scolded him for flirting with the girls. Flirting in Ceylon being about as serious an offense as in the realm of the Mikado. Forester's father, who was a Portuguese, is dead; his mother is French. His ambition is to become a ball-player.

Chicago Grain Market.

The following were the closing quotations in Chicago at 1:15 p. m. to-day, received by G. C. Caldwell, Secretary Decatur Grain Co.

WHEAT—94½ Mar; 95½ Apr; 96½ May; 97½ June.

CORN—34½ Mar; 34½ Apr; 35½ May; 36½ June.

BARLEY—34½ Mar; 34½ Apr; 25½ May; 26½ June.

PORE—\$11.70 Mar; \$11.80 Apr; \$12.90 May.

LAND—\$6.77 Mar; \$6.80 Apr; \$6.85 May.

RICE—\$6.02 Mar; \$6.05 Apr; \$6.10 May.

Live Stock—Estimated receipts—Cows 18,000; market higher.

Cattle, 9,000; good, steady.

Pork—\$10.00; Winter, 25; Spring, 7; Corn, 87½; Oats, 142.

HAND COAL, all sizes and best quality. dec13-dtt F. D. Caldwell.

F. L. HAYS & Co.

Ladies' and Children's Cloaks,

That we are determined to Close Out. Come and be Fitted and Suited, and we will give you the

•LOWEST PRICES EVER OFFERED YOU.

We have also made Sweeping REDUCTIONS on all HEAVY WOOL DRESS GOODS, LADIES' CLOTHS, BROAD CLOTHS, WOOL PLAIDS, Etc., Etc.

We have reduced our entire balance of Combination Suits that were \$15, \$18, \$22 and \$25 each, to

YOUR CHOICE FOR \$10.

Swan's Down, Black Fur Trimmings and Gray Fur Trimmings, reduced from 15 to 75c per yard to 10 to 50c per yard. In fact ALL WINTER GOODS are to be sold at

—GREAT SACRIFICE—

We have just received 100 Pieces of even and broken Cheek Gingham, of best make. 100 Pieces Merino Prints. 25 Pieces of handsome Chintz, fast colors, at 12½c. 50 beautiful Satins at 10 and 14c.

Also a Complete Line of Wide Shirtings, wide Sheetings, Pillow Case Muslins, Cheviots, Denims, Ticks, Canton Flannels, Etc.,

•ALL AT THE LOWEST CASH PRICES.

N. B.—Our Terms, commencing 1889, are POSITIVELY CASH.

+F. L. HAYS & CO.+

CLOCKS! * * * CLOCKS!

Marble, + Bronze, + Silver, Marbleized Iron, WITH SIDE AND TOP ORNAMENTS TO MATCH. ALSO.

Walnut * and * Fancy * Wood * Clocks.

WE CARRY THE ONLY LARGE STOCK OF CLOCKS IN DECATUR AND MAKE THE LOWEST PRICES.

* W. R. ABBOTT & CO. *

EAST PARK BOULEVARDS.

+Grand + Spring + Opening+

28 houses erected in Fall of '88. Large number of houses to commence in early Spring. NO ADVANCE IN PRICES. Daily application for lots. Make your selection now and join the procession bound for the Boulevards.

J. M. CLOKEY.

Jun 2-d&wt

* A. O. BREWER, *

Wholesale and Retail

+BAKER+

Fine Home-Made Bread, Pies and Cakes

211 NORTH MAIN ST.

CARPETS, WALL PAPER,

Curtains Rugs, Mats and Linoleum, AT ABEL'S CARPET HOUSE. NEW SPRING STOCK JUST IN.

For Excellence in Beauty and Design, Richness in Colorings, Cheapness in Price, no former year's purchases can equal it. GO AND SEE THEM, at

ABEL'S CARPET HOUSE.

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The Emperor of Russia has a fine Diamond, in the shape of a parallelogram, and called the Shah, which came from Persia, and weighs 86 karats. It is, however, disfigured by an inscription in the Persian language.

THE "STAR OF THE SOUTH."

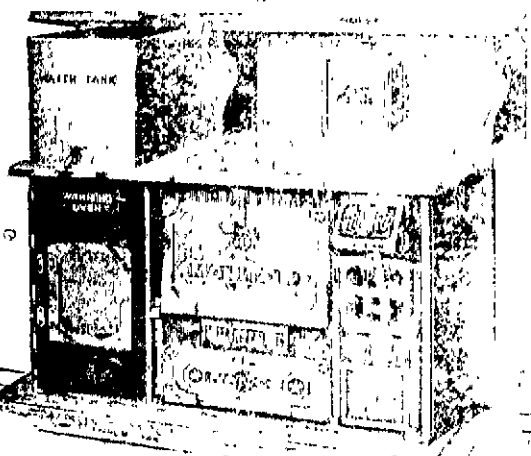
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THE "HOPE."

A celebrated blue diamond is known as the Hope, from having been for many years in the possession of the great house of Hope & Co., of Amsterdam. It weighed nearly 44 karats, and was exhibited in London in 1851. Before the French Revolution the kings of France possessed a blue diamond of great value. It was stolen with other jewels by the revolutionists and has never been seen since. The thief may have lost it or sent it to India. If it were in Europe and publicly owned it would have been discovered and reclaimed long ago.

OTTO E. CURTIS & BRO.,
"Old," Reliable Jewelers.

The Double Cased MONITOR STEEL RANGE



Is the very Best Cooking Apparatus you can buy.

FOR SALE ONLY BY

LYTLE, ECKELS & RONEY
125 North Water Street.

1889-1855-34

Our Meat Market was established in 1855—thirty-four years ago, on the corner of South Main and Wood streets, where we are still located. The above fact proves conclusively that we have attained marked success in catering to the wants of the public, and should be accepted as a sufficient guarantee for the future. We can, as before, supply you with the best of everything in our line, and only ask for a continuance of the very liberal patronage heretofore bestowed, being satisfied that we can MEET all demands made upon us.

IMBODEN BROS.

OPERA HOUSE,
Thursday, Friday and Saturday,
—MARCH 21, 22 AND 23—
Special Matinee Saturday at 2:30.



LOVETT & JOHNSON'S
Equine and Canine Paradox!

DOGS AND PONIES
Wonderfully Trained.

The Only East India Ponies in America.
The Only Australian Horse in the United States.
Picanninies, the Smallest Horse in the World.

ADMISSION, 15, 25 AND 35 CENTS.

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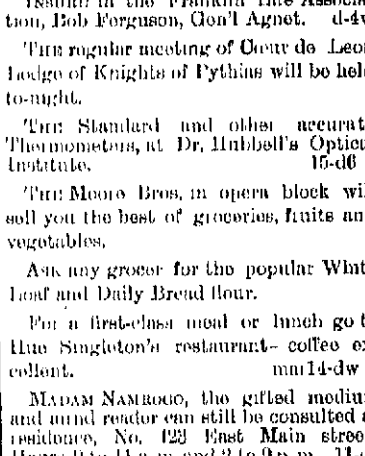
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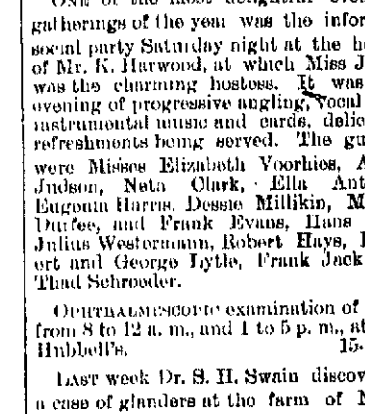
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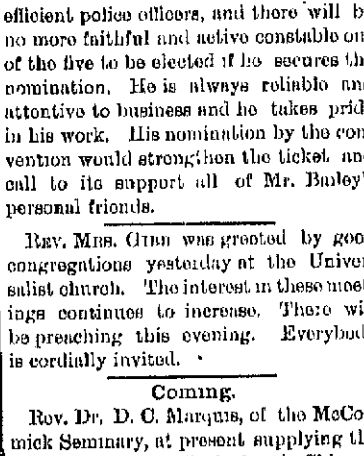
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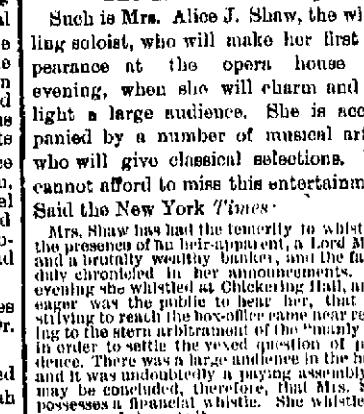
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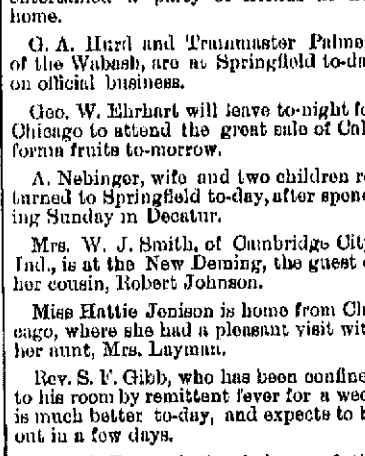
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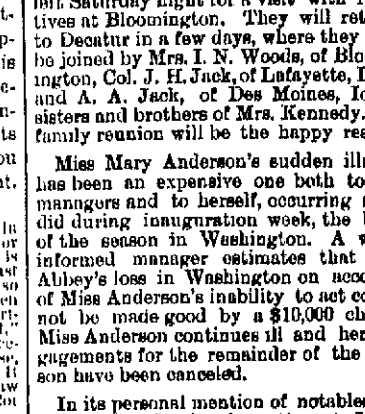
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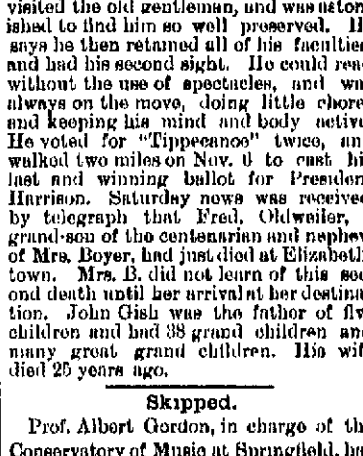
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The Double Cased MONITOR STEEL RANGE



Is the very Best Cooking Apparatus you can buy.

FOR SALE ONLY BY

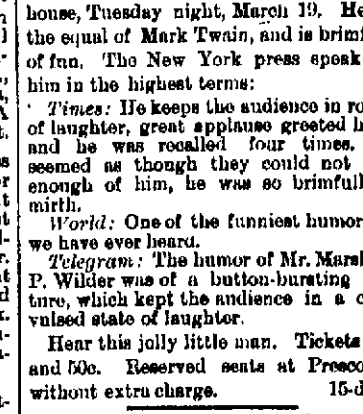
LYTLE, ECKELS & RONEY
125 North Water Street.

1889-1855-34

Our Meat Market was established in 1855—thirty-four years ago, on the corner of South Main and Wood streets, where we are still located. The above fact proves conclusively that we have attained marked success in catering to the wants of the public, and should be accepted as a sufficient guarantee for the future. We can, as before, supply you with the best of everything in our line, and only ask for a continuance of the very liberal patronage heretofore bestowed, being satisfied that we can MEET all demands made upon us.

IMBODEN BROS.

OPERA HOUSE,
Thursday, Friday and Saturday,
—MARCH 21, 22 AND 23—
Special Matinee Saturday at 2:30.



LOVETT & JOHNSON'S
Equine and Canine Paradox!

DOGS AND PONIES
Wonderfully Trained.

The Only East India Ponies in America.
The Only Australian Horse in the United States.
Picanninies, the Smallest Horse in the World.

ADMISSION, 15, 25 AND 35 CENTS.

EXTRAORDINARY SALE

HOUSE * FURNISHING * GOODS.

LINN & SCRUGGS Succeeded in buying an Entire Sample Line of an European Linen House at their own price, and will put them forward on:

MONDAY, MARCH 11, 1889,
at Prices Never Before Heard Of in this Market.

ASK TO SEE: Special Numbers in TURKEY RED DAMASK, PERFECTLY FAST, which we offer at 24c, 29c and 48c.
ASK TO SEE: Special Numbers of CREAM DAMASK we offer at 25c, 42c, 50c, 58c and 72c.

ASK TO SEE: Special Numbers of BLEACHED DAMASK we offer at 50c, 58c, 82c and 98c. NAPKINS to match CREAM DAMASK at 72c, and to match BLEACHED DAMASK 82c.
ASK TO SEE: TOWELS we offer at 10c, 15c, 20c and 25c—Cheaper than ever shown before.

ASK TO SEE: The Special CROCHET QUILT at 87c, and the Special MARRIAGES QUILT at \$1.38.
ASK TO SEE: The Special Numbers in NOTTINGHAM CURTAINS at \$1.75, \$2.15, \$2.75 and \$4.75 a pair. MADRAS CURTAINS at \$4.75 and \$6.25 a pair. Besides an Elegant Assortment of Swiss and GUPURE CURTAINS and PORTIERS.

We earnestly request our friends to give us an early call as we consider these goods the Greatest Bargains we have ever offered.

LINN & SCRUGGS,

Agents Butterick's Patterns and Hercules White Shirts.

FUN FOR THE PEOPLE!

FERRISS & LAPHAM Give the People a Benefit.

Ferriss & Lapham are obliged to give their entire attention to their growing Chicago business.

No exceptions, no reservations, no qualifications.
Entire Wholesale and Retail stocks, Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Rubbers, to be closed out at retail in Decatur beginning to-day—Terms Cash!

The price named on every pair will be the same figure named by the Largest Wholesale Boot and Shoe Manufacturers to the wholesale houses in Chicago.

We have enough goods to "shoe up" everybody in Mac county in good shape, and will give you serviceable goods at nearly half retail value.

Thanking you for past favors and promising to do so above indicated, we are,
Yours Respectfully,

FERRISS & LAPHAM,

148 East Main St.

Opera House
ONE NIGHT ONLY,
MONDAY, MARCH 18.

MAJOR J. B. FORD has the honor to announce the first appearance since her first triumph, of America's Phenomenon,
MRS. ALICE J. SHAW

ALICE J. SHAW
THE WHISTLING PRIMA DONNA,
And Queen of All Artists as a Whistler.

whose visit to London the past season was a sensational success.
She Whistled Three Times for the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Mrs. SHAW will be supported by the following excellent company of artists:
Miss OLLIE TORRETT, Violinist.
Miss EDITH POND, Singing Teacher.
Miss JENNIE L. CAMPBELL, Accompanist for Mrs. Shaw.
Mr. S. V. DOWNEY, Pianist.

AND
Mr. GUSTAVE THALBERG, the Swedish Tenor.

POPULAR PRICES—25c, 50c and 75c.
The sale of seats will begin at 7:30. The music begins Friday morning, March 15.

Seats on sale at Prescott's Music Store three days in advance.

Wednesday, Mar. 20.

America's Representative Monocle Actor,
Mr. FRANK MAYO

D'ARTAGNAN, the Young Gascon

An adaptation in his Acts by Mark and William, of ALEXANDER DUMAS' "The Three Musketeers."

PRICES—50 and 75 Cents and \$1.00.
The sale of seats will begin at 7:30. The music begins Friday morning, March 15.

Seats on sale at Prescott's Music Store three days in advance.

TAILOR-MADE SPRING OVERCOATS

Our New-
made
overcoats
are
tailor-made
for
Commissioners
of
the
General
Land
Office
and
for
Assistant-Postmaster-
General—A Quiet Lot.

It is hardly necessary to enlarge upon the importance of these offices. They have to do directly with our every day affairs, and are therefore of more importance to the whole people than the offices of larger name and bigger salaries. But the functions of these offices are of the greatest concern to us, because they come right home to the pocket of every taxpayer, and every body knows it, or ought to know it. Whoever the Republicans may nominate next Friday will be elected, and therefore the selection of delegates to nominate the candidates becomes of more importance than such things usually are. The nomination is equivalent to an election, and therefore the delegates in sending good men to the convention, they will be doing the best thing possible in favor of selecting good officers. People who stay away from the primaries have no right to complain if a ticket that does not suit them is put in the field. If they want to have good men to vote for, they must do their duty in the first instance—at the fountain head of political action, the place where the thing starts—the primary meeting. It is not possible for bad and designing men to control the election unless the good citizens absent themselves from the primaries. No good citizen does his whole duty who stays away from the primary meeting and allows the other kind of citizens to control the very fountain of every political movement. Two mistakes cannot be laid upon this fact, nor can it be too often brought to the attention of the citizen.

Go to the primary meetings, and see that the men who are delegated to form a ticket are such men as you would be willing to trust with any important business.

Give the President a Chance.

The President of the United States is engaged at this moment in the most important work that was ever entrusted to any one man in this country. He is engaged to pick out from among the millions of American citizens the men who are best fitted and best qualified to fill the various offices that have to do with the people's affairs. This responsibility for these offices does not rest upon the great leaders of the party, the senators and representatives, the lords of masses, the captains of office or the captains of hundreds—but upon the President. His administration must stand or fall according to the men he selects to fill the offices for the various offices. If he fills the thousands of places at his disposal with competent and honest men his administration will be satisfactory to the public; if he fills any considerable number with incompetent persons or bad men it will be condemned and he will find himself without the public confidence. Therefore the filling of the offices is to the President a matter of vastly more importance than it is to anybody else, and it is but common justice to him that he should be permitted to attend to his important duty without undue interference, and with the loyal acquiescence of the people at least that portion of them who are responsible for the fact that it is Benjamin Harrison and not Grover Cleveland who has the work to do.

The work of filling these offices is a delicate task to perform. There are scores of things to be considered aside from the main question—that of the candidate's fitness. To the President there are the just claims of locality, the question of how best to recognize the claims and preferences of different elements of our heterogeneous population, the delicate task of adjusting patronage so that the executive may not unnecessarily arouse and inflame prejudice that exists, however unreasonable and unjust these prejudices may be—all these are things that he must consider and decide. What the senator or representative or party leader has only the wisdom of one or single individual, or locality, or state to deal with, the President has the whole multitude to consider, and it is not an unenviable task that he shall require time, not is it wonderful that there should be many disappointments.

There is one thing that a good many people forget, with reference to this matter, and if it were more forcibly brought to their comprehension it would be a great step forward, and that is that no man in this country has an indisputable right to have any office that he may desire. The principle is well established that every man's desire for an office must be subordinated to a higher power than his own will. It is in an elective office that he wants, he will find that the single and only way to reach the object of his desire is to convince the sovereign people that he is the proper man. If it is an appointive office to fix his eye upon, he must convince the appointing power that he can fill it better than anybody else. These are the only two ways in which an office can be obtained in this country, and no man has a right to rail out against the powers that be in either case, if he is brought to a halt before he reaches the goal of his ambition. The matter is all governed by well defined laws, and the disappointed aspirant only makes himself ridiculous by failing to take his defeat philosophically. And the people, too, look upon the matter in this light, at least that large portion of them who are not among the office-seeking class.

The scramble for office since the fourth of March, though not entered into by so many people as besieged Washington four years ago, is disgusting a good many people, and if it is continued will disgust a good many more. The most sensible thing to do is to give the President a chance. He is a just man, a patriotic man and a pure man. Let us give him a chance.

Threatened with Extinction.
BALTIMORE, Md., March 17.—The village of Hereford, on the Yorktown pike, twenty miles from Baltimore, was visited by a serious fire at midnight last night, and for three hours was threatened with extinction. The fire broke out in D. J. York's cabinet-shop. A high wind quickly carried the flames to Mr. York's store, and to the tin-shop, dwelling and stable of A. S. Carman. These buildings with their contents were burned. The fire then spread to a number of other dwellings, and the high wind carried the flames a distance of half a mile, and started new fires at those distant points. The fire was not conquered until nearly four o'clock. Mr. Matthews, a school teacher, fell from a ladder and fractured his left leg near the ankle. Mr. York's loss is \$2,500; and the insurance \$1,500. Mr. Carman's loss is \$2,000; with \$1,200 insurance. The other losses are not estimated.

Australia and the United States.
SAN FRANCISCO, March 18.—United States Consul Griffin, who arrived yesterday, was met by a delegation of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce, headed by the Mayor, to discuss the proposed departure by the Governor of New South Wales, at which leading merchants were present, the speeches were strongly pro-American, and the United States flag was hoisted on the ship.

Death of Colonel McComb.
WASHINGTON, March 17.—Colonel John N. McComb, a retired officer of the engineer corps, died yesterday at his residence in this city. He was seventy-eight years old.

A Flying Trip to Brooklyn.
WASHINGTON, March 17.—Secretary Tracy went to Brooklyn, N. Y., yesterday. He is expected to return to-morrow.

Colonel Canaday Better.
WASHINGTON, March 17.—Colonel W. C. Canaday, sergeant-at-arms of the Senate, as reported somewhat better yesterday.

Secretary Tracy Banqueted.
BROOKLYN, March 17.—General Benjamin F. Tracy, Secretary of the Navy, was the guest of the Hamilton Club last night. The building was handsomely decorated for the occasion, and in the main dining-room covers were laid for 250 guests.

Found Hanging.
WHEELING, W. Va., March 18.—A horrible discovery was made yesterday morning upon the farm of Mr. Samuel Howitt, of Rich Hill township, Greene County. While a neighbor, Howitt, was passing through a small piece of woods he saw the body of a man swinging from the limb of a tree. Making a close examination he found that the man's face and hands were frozen, and that all human semblance as though beaten with a heavy hammer. Tied to a small limb close to the corpse was an old-fashioned horse-pistol.

The Postmaster-General at Home.
PHILADELPHIA, March 18.—Postmaster-General Wadsworth, who is perhaps the busiest man in the country to-day, would through his routine of meetings at DeBary's school yesterday, looking as fresh as though he had not an official care on his mind. He went to church in the morning, and opened the Sunday-school in the afternoon. Afterward he taught his Bible-class at which, and at the Sunday-school, there was a large attendance.

Bad Fate of a Missed Girl.
PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 18.—Miss Jennie McKee, daughter of wealthy parents of this city, gave birth to a child about eight months ago. Last Wednesday learning her seducer was in Providence, she went to that city, and on Thursday morning she was found dead in a rooming-house, and her body was found with a knife wound in her throat.

Over the Bluff to Death.
KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 17.—Yesterday afternoon an empty wagon was driven over the corner of Fifth and Claremont streets. Clara Hunter, a six-year-old girl, was playing in it. In some way the vehicle was started and went over the bluff, falling a distance of about thirty feet. The child was killed.

Fatal Impromptu Duel.
PHILADELPHIA, March 17.—Charles Calhoun, who, for fifteen years has been the community clerk of the "River District," in Fulton County, was shot and instantly killed at four o'clock yesterday afternoon by a man named Markel, from Smithfield, Ill. Calhoun and Markel had been drinking together since yesterday morning, and they again both drew revolvers, but Markel, being a little the quicker, shot and killed Calhoun.

A Superintendent's Fatal Carousal.
PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 17.—Yesterday afternoon a number of men were digging a natural gas trench at Harrison City, near Greensburg, Pa., when Superintendent John W. Smith, who was in the pipe line, was killed by a gas explosion.

Emmons Blaine.
BALTIMORE, Md., March 17.—Emmons Blaine will arrive here on Wednesday next, and enter upon his duties with the Baltimore Central railroad. He will be president of the Maryland Coal and Lumber Company of West Virginia, and assist President Henry G. Davis in the management of the railroad.

Found Guilty of Murder.
NEW YORK, March 17.—The coroner's jury yesterday in the case of Guendler, the drug clerk of No. 36 Third avenue, who was killed by a shot fired by William Krulisch, returned a verdict finding Krulisch guilty of the crime. Krulisch was removed to the Tombs.

Suit for Damages Sustained by the Mud Run Disaster.
BOSTON, Pa., March 17.—Mary Cannon, of this city, who was married and disinherited from her husband, yesterday began suit against the Lehigh Valley Railway Company for \$25,000 damages.

Thrown from a Train by a Tramp.
CLEVELAND, O., March 18.—A special from Lima, O., says that John McCarthy, a brakeman on the Dayton & Michigan railroad, was assaulted by a tramp and thrown from a train at station yesterday morning. McCarthy will die.

Home for Ready Ex-Confederate Soldiers.
NEW YORK, March 18.—The Secretary of the Confederate Home committee has received a letter of appreciation from Secret Major-General A. Baird, of Washington, in his letter General Baird strongly indorses General Sherman's suggestion that the Federal soldiers' homes be open to receive needy ex-Confederate soldiers.

The Quiet of Lent.
WASHINGTON, March 18.—The past week has passed off exceptionally quiet and in the social world. Evidently the Lenten season is upon us.

Chicago Politics.
The Republicans of Chicago on Saturday nominated Mayor Robo for re-election. Sam. B. Raymond for city treasurer, Theodore Brentano for city attorney, and Franz Amberg for city clerk. The convention was unimpressive and anti-climactic, and the ticket, which is a good one, starts out with the best of prospects. The Democratic convention nominated DeWitt C. Greider for Mayor.

Widow's woman sloop to folly.
and goes out in the snow without her rubber boots, the only art to cure her cold is to buy one bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup at 25 cents, and take it.

Do not be deceived by cheap pretensions.
If you want an overcoat for self, boy or child at a genuine reduction all along the line go to John Irwin's White Fur Clothing Store. The name is the selling gold dollars for 50 cents.

DR. T. P. HUBBELL
Optical Institute, 339 N. Main St.
Feb 23 Power's Block.

NEWS FROM SAMOA.
Every Thing Quiet and the German Marshal Law a Dead Letter.

The Attempt of a German Crew to Search an American Vessel Wreathed by a Pincky Resistance.

German Indifference to the Peril of an American Crew—Finally Rescued by the Nipic.

San Francisco, March 17.—New Zealanders after the heavy north-westerly gale on February 14 the American barkentine Constitution, Captain Peter Cowley, was driven ashore in Apia harbor, Samoa, and wrecked on the lower reef. The United States man-of-war Nipic, which was lying in the harbor, succeeded in rescuing the crew of the barkentine and landing them in safety.

Similar disasters are reported from other parts of the island, among them being the wreck of the schooner Matale and the schooner H. K. Moore, of Apia. The Constitution was owned by Nicholas Richards, of San Francisco, and was freighted with a general cargo for Apia. The captain and crew of the wrecked vessel were brought to this city by the Zealanders.

The Zealanders also brought the following articles from Apia: Every thing has been quiet at Samoa during the past week, and although the declaration of a state of war on the islands by the Germans still exists, it seems to have become a dead letter. The instructions which American and English consuls are still guarded. Matale is holding a strong position, and has full faith in the support of the United States. His difficulty with the Germans has not been adjusted, and he is now waiting for the German Consul. Many of Matale's followers are joining Matale.

The ex-German officer Brandies, who was in a considerable degree responsible for the trouble here, left Apia on the last steamer for Sydney, and it is said the German authorities have ordered him to Berlin to explain his actions in relation to Samoa affairs. On February 23, the United States man-of-war Royal, under the command of Commander H. H. Henshaw, had not arrived up to the time of the departure of the Zealanders. Her arrival is looked for with much anxiety. The impressions exist on the islands that her commander, Admiral Kimberly, has instructions which will terminate the uncertainty as to the course to be pursued by the American officials at the islands in case of an emergency.

The British man-of-war Calypso has relieved the British man-of-war Royal. There is much rejoicing among the English residents over this change. Captain Hand of the Royal has been very popular with them because of his likeable warm conduct in looking after and protecting their interests. There has been much complaint on the part of the English against Captain Hand. The German man-of-war Ebn has returned from Apia. Nothing is known about her mission, nor the dispatches she brought.

The German officials are still accused of opening mail matter addressed to Americans and Englishmen. The Olga, of the German navy, met the schooner having aboard her the German consul, and the schooner Alameda had delivered, and took off the whole mail, private and official, and ordered the schooner to return to Apia. The mail was handed over to the post-office at Apia by the Olga. It is said that in future an American war-ship will receive American mail at Tutuila in order to avoid the necessity of American mail matter passing through German hands before reaching Apia.

That tired, debilitated feeling so peculiar to Spring, indicates depraved blood. Now is the time to prove the beneficial effects of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It cleanses the system, restores physical energy, and infuses new life and vigor into every fibre of the body.

Please Notice Change of Business Location.
Mrs. R. O. Hennessey at her new stand, 125 East Main street, is now prepared to show a line of Millinery and Fancy Goods seldom equalled in variety and style. Please call and judge for yourselves. Remember the location—125 East Main street. Mrs. McDonald's old stand, 117-119-121.

When the Chicago base-ball team reaches home it will be accompanied by a new mascot who was engaged by Al Spaulding at Columbus, on the Island of Ceylon. The new acquisition, who has been signed for five years, is an athletic looking youth 18 years old named Walter Persiva. Spaulding ran across him on a steamer on the Red Sea while on his route from Australia. Persiva was Colonel of the Ceylon Volunteers, but left home and shipped as a sailor because his mother scolded him for flirting with the girls, flirting in Ceylon being about as serious an offense as in the realm of the Mikado. Persiva's father, who was a Portuguese, is dead; his mother is French. His ambition is to become a ball-player.

Chicago Grain Market.
The following were the closing quotations in Chicago at 1:15 p. m. to-day, received by G. C. Caldwell, Secretary Decatur Grain Co.

Wheat—94% Mar; 95% April; 96% May; 97% June.
Corn—34% Mar; 34% April; 35% May; 35% June.
Oats—24% Mar; 24% April; 25% May; 25% June.
Pork—\$11.70 Mar; \$11.80 Apr; \$12.90 May.
Lard—\$6.77 Mar; \$6.80 April; \$6.85 May.
Coffee—\$6.02 Mar; \$6.05 April; \$6.10 May.
Live Stock—Estimated receipts—15,000; market higher.
Cattle, 9,000; good, steady.
Orl. Cows—Wheat: Winter, 20; Spring, 7; Corn, 47; Oats, 142.
Hard coal, all sizes and best quality, dec'd-dit.
F. D. Caldwell.

Sealed Proposals.
Sealed bids for building the Macou county Fair grounds will be received of the County Clerk, up to one o'clock p. m., March 25, 1888, at which time the bids will be opened and the lowest bidder will be the successful bidder. The parties leasing must make all necessary repairs at their own expense, and the committee reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Administrator's Sale of Real Estate.
By virtue of an order and decree of the County Court of Macou county, Illinois, made on the petition of the undersigned, George Reubner, administrator of the estate of Alvah Hubbard, deceased, for leave to sell the real estate of said deceased at the March term, A. D. 1888, of said Court, to-wit: on the eleventh day of April, A. D. 1888, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon of said day, sell at public sale, at the west end of the bridge to the railway leading to the electric car room in the city of Decatur, the following real estate described as follows: Commencing at the southeast corner of the northeast quarter (1/4) of the northeast quarter (1/4) of Section Fourteen (14) in Township sixteen (16) North, Range Two (2) East of the Third (3) Principal Meridian, running thence North twenty (20) degrees, thence West eight (8) rods, thence South twenty (20) rods, thence East eight (8) rods, to the place of beginning; also that lot, tract or parcel of land lying directly West of and immediately adjacent and adjoining above described lot, to-wit: the lot (1) of the survey of the Fourth (4) of Section Fourteen (14) in Township sixteen (16) North, Range Two (2) East of the Third (3) Principal Meridian, running thence North twenty (20) degrees, thence West eight (8) rods, thence South twenty (20) rods, to the place of beginning; 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